

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/785,633

Examiner

VIJAY SHANKAR

Applicant(s)

FYKE, STEVEN HENRY

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/20/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.


THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


VIJAY SHANKAR
Primary Examiner
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Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-20 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior arts fails to teach a keyboard structured to be incorporated into an electronic device, the keyboard comprising: a printed circuit board having a plurality of electrical contacts; a primary conductor portion including a number of primary conductors, each one of said primary conductors being elastically deflectable between a relaxed position and a deflected position, each one of said primary conductors in the deflected position electrically connecting together a pair of the electrical contacts; a secondary conductor portion including a number of secondary conductors, each one of said secondary conductors being elastically deflectable between a relaxed position and a deflected position, each one of said secondary conductors in the deflected position electrically connecting together a pair of the electrical contacts; a number of keys, each one of said keys being cooperable with a corresponding one of said primary conductors and at least a first corresponding one of said secondary conductors; the primary conductors and the secondary conductors being disposed between the printed circuit board and the keys; and each one of said keys being movable between an initial position, a first terminal position, and a second terminal position, said each one of said keys in the first terminal position deflecting the corresponding one of said primary conductors to its deflected position, said each one of said keys in the second terminal position deflecting the corresponding one of said primary conductors and said at least a

first corresponding one of said secondary conductors to their deflected positions as claimed in Claim 1.

The prior arts fails to teach a handheld electronic device comprising: a keyboard; a display positioned adjacent the keyboard; a processor structured to receive inputs from the keyboard and to output to the display as a function of said inputs; the keyboard including a printed circuit board, a primary conductor portion, a secondary conductor portion, and a number of keys; the printed circuit board having a plurality of electrical contacts; the primary conductor portion including a number of primary conductors, each one of said primary conductors being elastically deflectable between a relaxed position and a deflected position, each one of said primary conductors in the deflected position electrically connecting together a pair of the electrical contacts; the secondary conductor portion including a number of secondary conductors, each one of **said secondary conductors being elastically deflectable between a relaxed position and a deflected position, each one of said secondary conductors in the deflected position electrically connecting together a pair of the electrical contacts; each one of said keys being cooperable with a corresponding one of said primary conductors and at least a first corresponding one of said secondary conductors; the primary conductors and the secondary conductors being disposed between the printed circuit board and the keys; and each one of said keys being movable between an initial position, a first terminal position, and a second terminal position, said each one of said keys in the first terminal position**

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deflecting the corresponding one of said primary conductors to its deflected position, said each one of said keys in the second terminal position deflecting the corresponding one of said primary conductors and said at least a first corresponding one of said secondary conductors to their deflected positions as claimed in Claim 11.

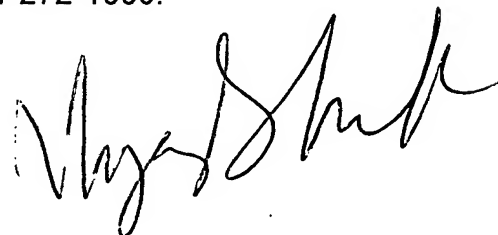
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VIJAY SHANKAR whose telephone number is (571) 272-7682. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BIPIN SHALWALA can be reached on (571) 272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vijay Shankar', is positioned above the printed name.

VIJAY SHANKAR
Primary Examiner
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